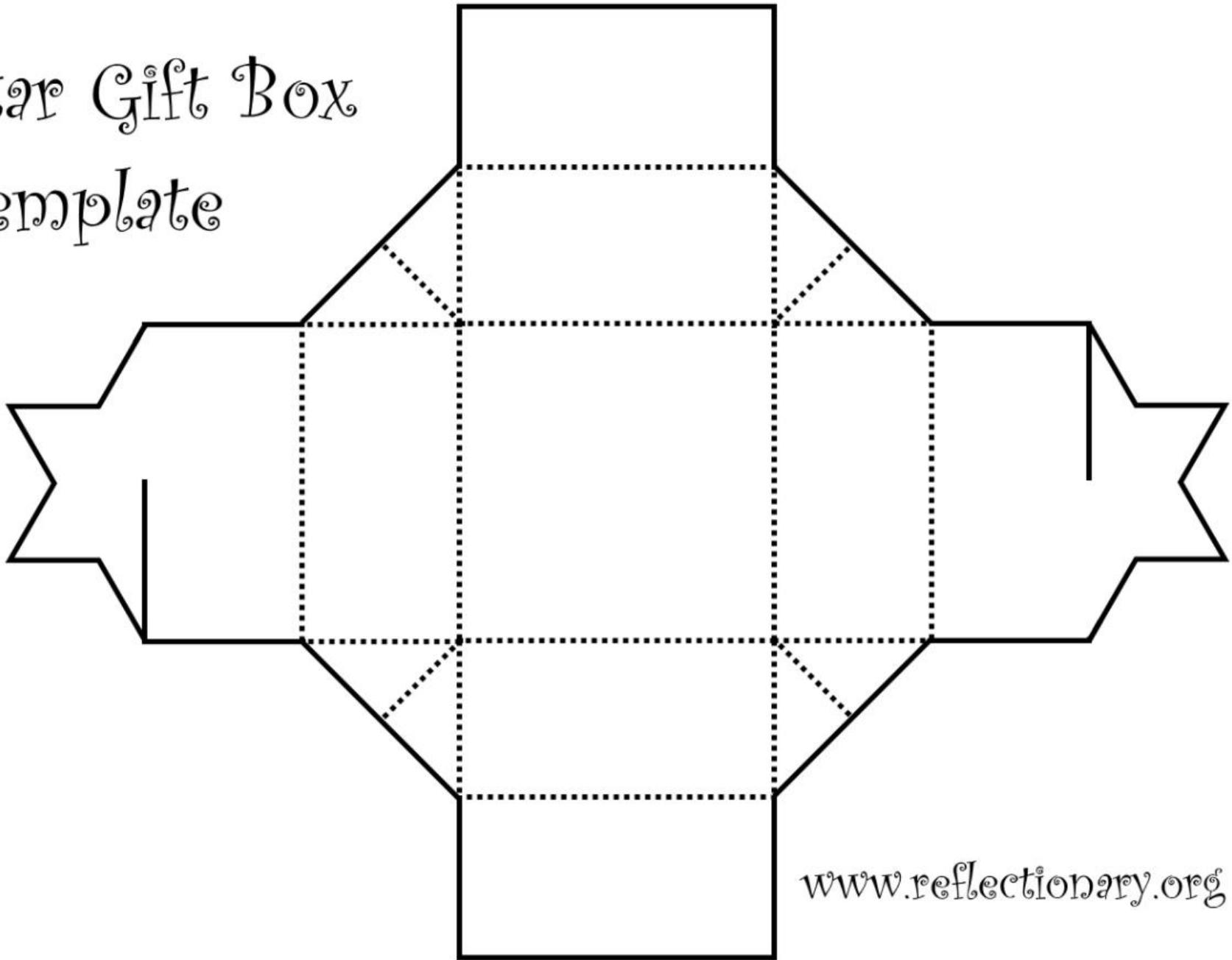


*Star Gift Box  
Template*



## Useless Gifts?

The wise men brought some pretty weird gifts for a new-born baby. Surely a blanket or baby-grow would have been more use? Or, I dunno, a proper bed?

But the wise men brought what they had, and that's all anyone can do. We also, can bring to God what we have. We may look at some famous Christian 'super-saints' and think, "I couldn't do that. I don't have their gifts." That's OK, you're not supposed to. God knows what your gifts are and he's not expecting you to use someone else's. What gifts could you bring to the babe in the manger?

No idea? This thought-filled gift box might help. You can place it under your tree or in the manger scene as an offering, an act of worship.



## To Make the Star Gift Box:

Print or trace the template onto card stock or thick paper. Cut around the solid lines, fold on the dotted lines.

Use craft materials for decorating like stick-on gems, metallic paints, gold/silver marker pens, glitter and coloured pens.

Decorate one side of your card shape to make it look like a precious gift that the wise men might have brought. The central square will be the bottom of your box, the surrounding rectangles will be the sides and the star (in two halves) will be on the top.

Use coloured pens/crayons to fill the box with your gifts. In the centre square, write your name. Then on each of the four arms fill something in under these headings:

- I can ... (things you can do, things you are good at.)
- I am ... (things about you, what you are like; kind, patient...)
- I have ... (things you have)
- I will ... (things you will try to do in the New Year to help God and others)

These are just suggestions to get you started. It doesn't matter how small or useless you think your gifts are – remember that the 'wise' men brought completely impractical gifts!

When you have filled your box with gifts, bring the sides together, pushing the corner triangles inwards. Then slot the two halves of the star together to close the box and offer your gifts to God.